

Debra Johnson collection on New Sweden (Me.)

MCC-00077

Finding Aid

**Prepared by Kim Raymond; revised by Kathryn Donahue, August 2013
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine**

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Collection Title: Debra Johnson collection on New Sweden (Me.)

Citation: Debra Johnson collection on New Sweden (Me.), MCC-00077, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Collection Number: MCC:92-00077 *Shelf List Numbers:* UM-77, AA-77, UA-77, AJ-77 (although the archival gold are not label with AJ, they are located in that section of the collection room.)

Provenance: Submitted for a course with Roger Paradis at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Summer 1974. Brought to the Acadian Archives/Archive acadiennes by Prof. Paradis in March 1991.

Date Range: 1974

Physical Characteristics/Condition: 5 C-60 audio cassettes containing oral history interviews with Mabel Hemberg and Teckla Peterson of New Sweden, Maine; tape recorded descriptions of the Gustaf Adolph Lutheran Church and of the New Sweden Historical Museum; tape-recorded remedies and recipes. Also included is 126 pages of original or photocopied manuscript including epitaphs, proverbs, games and poetry in Swedish and English; measured drawings of the Erickson homestead; a “toponymy” of New Sweden; a booklet celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the Gustaf Adolph Evangelical Lutheran Church; and genealogical data on the Johnson family. All materials submitted for a course at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Summer 1974.

Access: There are no restrictions on this collection

Biographical information:

Mabel H. Olander Hemberg was born February 21, 1898, the daughter of Otis and Elizabeth Olander. She married Lawrence E. Hemberg (born May 2, 1895; died July 7, 1981) on February 2, 1919 and was a resident of New Sweden, Maine. Hemberg died on December 3, 1987.

Teckla Hjulstrom Peterson was born March 30, 1894 in Woodland, Aroostook County, Maine, the daughter of Erik August and Annie Nelson Hjulstrom. She married Conrad Peterson (born January 23, 1883; died August 9, 1948) on April 9, 1917. Peterson died on May 21, 1987.

Debra Johnson was born February 6, 1953, the daughter of Hampy Leo and Elba Victoria Osell Johnson.

Organizational history:

The Gustaf Adolph Lutheran Church was established as the First Swedish Lutheran Church in New Sweden in August 1871 under the leadership of Pastor Andrew Wiren. Initially, sixty-one men, fifty-one women, and one hundred and nine children comprised the congregation. A Sunday School program was inaugurated on December 4, 1875, with instruction given in Swedish. In January 1886, a Swedish school was established next to the church to further Swedish instruction. In 1877, the present-day church was built; the original church building now houses the Swedish Historical Museum. The church was dedicated July 23, 1880. In July 1896, the name of the church was changed to Gustaf Adolph Lutheran Church. The church was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

Upon the founding of the New Sweden colony in 1870, a public building called the "Capitolium" was built to serve as the immigrant reception center, school, supply store, church, and town hall. A new town hall was built in 1926, at which time the original Capitolium became the New Sweden Historical Museum. In June 1971, the Museum was destroyed in a fire; all of its artifacts and its front doors were saved by the New Sweden citizens. The building was rebuilt in 1974.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of research materials pertaining to various aspects of the history of New Sweden, Maine. Included are 5 audio recordings of oral history interviews with Mabel Hemberg and Teckla Peterson of New Sweden, Maine; tape recorded descriptions of the Gustaf Adolph Lutheran Church and of the New Sweden Historical Museum; tape-recorded remedies and recipes. Also included are 126 pages of original or photocopied research manuscripts, including epitaphs, proverbs, games and poetry in Swedish and English; measured drawings of the Erickson homestead; a "toponomy" of New Sweden; and a booklet celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the Gustaf Adolph Evangelical Lutheran Church of New Sweden. All materials submitted for a course at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Summer 1974.

Order and Arrangement: 5 C-60 audio cassettes, 126 pages of manuscript.

Notes: The content of the audio cassettes was transferred on archival compact discs and a copy on white label compact discs were also made for patron use. See concordance below.

Please refer to the Paradis Folklore Project boxes for this collection. The archival gold discs are located in the collection room where CDs are located in the AJ section. The white label discs are in the media section of the stacks.

White label compact discs

Acadian A-V AudioCD GR110.M2 J6 [1974] pt.1
Acadian A-V AudioCD GR110.M2 J6 [1974] pt.2

Archival Gold compact discs

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Acadian A-V AudioCD GR110.M2 J6 [1974] pt.2A
Acadian A-V AudioCD GR110.M2 J6 [1974] pt.2B
Acadian A-V AudioCD GR110.M2 J6 [1974] pt.3
Acadian A-V AudioCD GR110.M2 J6 [1974] pt.4

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